on the 15th it was going to be difficult because there were already two debates in the Lok Sabha for which I had to be present in the Lok Sabha. In spite of that, I did come and I spent some time—I forget the exact amount and it was somewhere near three quarters of an hour-listening to the debate in this House and it was only when the debate on the "No Confidence" motion started that I went back to the Lok Sabha. And, Sir, I would like to remind the honourable Member that he was one of the speakers whose speach I heard almost in toto and, in fact, during that speech, some questions were asked and I did respond to those questions and, so, it is not as if I was just a mere spectator and was listening to what was being said.

One Member has just mentioned about some people from our side shouting. I think I don't have to point out who is shouting. All that we have to do is to listen to the sounds or voices that are coming... (*Interruptions*) ...and see whose voice is louder and whose voice is normal and we will know who has been shouting. I believe... (*Interruptions*)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We are less in number... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: They want to make it up by noise!

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I believe that the Rajya Raksha Mantri has sent a box of strepsils to one of the honourable Members ... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think you are exaggerating ... (*Interruptions*) ... You have sent one and not a box. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I said, "box to one honourable Member". (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I will be happy if he sends the thousand crores of rupees to West Bengal which he promised! (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Humour should not be spoiled, Mr. Ghosh.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, Dipen Ghoshji, I believe, received the whole box. Obviously, he has not shared them! Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. All is well that ends well!

I have to make one announcement. Honourable Members of the Opposition requested me this morning that the debate on Defence might be taken up on Monday. I have considered their request and I have accepted it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Thank you, Sir.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: At what time will it be taken up, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: After 12 o'clock.

Now, Mr. K. R. Narayanan has to go for another engagement. Therefore, I would ask him to make the statement before taking up the other matters. May I ask Mr. Narayanan to make the statement?

I. STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Launching of the augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) on the 24th March, 1987 from Sriharikota

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): Sir, the first developmental flight of the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV-DI) with the SROSS-1 Satellite on board took place from Sriharikota on March 24, 1987.

The lift-off took place at 12.09 hours IST with the ignition of the

two strap-on booster motors. The performance of the vehicle was normal upto 48.5 seconds.

At 48.5 sec. there was a telemetry indication that the first stage ignition command was sent from the onboard computer. However, the ignition of the first stage motor did not occur. Consequently, the flight terminated prematurely at 163 sec. and the objective of the mission of placing the SROSS-1 satellite in orbit could not be achieved.

Two very important new technologies viz. the strap-on staging technology and the closed loop guidance system were to be evaluated in this flight. Of these, the strap-on technology has performed satisfactorily. The closed loop guidance system, the most complex technology incorporated in this flight, which is designed to operate from the second stage onwards could not be evaluated fully due to the premature termination of the flight. The available data in this system has indicated that the inertial guidance system, a key element, has performed satisfactorily.

Telemetry and tracking data received during the flight are being analysed by expert teams to identify the cause of failure and to recommend the modifications to be carried out for achieving a successful ASLV mission as soon as possible.

Based upon analysis carried out so far, the cause for non-ignition of the core motor has been narrowed down to possible malfunctioning of any of the following elements of the ignition system viz. pyro-technique initiator, igniter booster charge which provides energy for sustained ignition of the stage motor, safe arm device, and associated circuitry. All possible failure modes are being analysed and tested rigorously.

The ASLV programme envisages two developmental flights. The second developmental flight of ASLV (ASLV-D2) will take place as per plans.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): The statement does not explain why it fell in the Bay of Bengal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can also seek clarifications. Let us dispose of some routine matters. Statement correcting answer to question. Mr. Panja.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

II. Correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th March, 1987 to Unstarred Question 1892 regarding royalty to the authors of 'Builders of Modern India' series of books.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th March, 1987 to Unstarred Question 1892, regarding royalty to the authors of 'Builders of Modern India' series of books. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4206A/87]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (1985-86) of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each